

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA**

| | | |
|---------------------------|---|---------------------|
| UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, |) | |
| |) | |
| |) | Criminal No. 08-254 |
| v. |) | |
| |) | Judge Cathy Bissoon |
| GERALD TILLMAN, |) | |
| |) | |
| Defendant. |) | |

ORDER

In late November 2018, Defendant transmitted to Judge Joy Flowers Conti a letter, referencing the Second Chance Act and requesting that the Court assist him, if possible, regarding his anticipated placement in a halfway-house. *See* Def.’s Correspondence (filed as an appendix to this Order). Judge Conti’s Chambers forwarded the letter to the undersigned, as the Judge assigned to the above-referenced Criminal Action.

Although Defendant’s letter is respectful and heartfelt, the Court is unable to assist him as requested. Initially, requests of this kind are subject to exhaustion-requirements, and they properly are filed in the district-of-confinement. U.S. v. Broadway, 2018 WL 5817939, *1 (W.D.N.C. Nov. 6, 2018) (citations omitted). Even were that not the case, the undersigned has adopted the reasoning in U.S. v. Harrell, 2018 WL 4868816 (E.D.N.C. Oct. 7, 2018), dictating that “the [BOP] is in the best position to determine the appropriateness of a prisoner’s halfway house placement.” *Id.* at *1 (citing relevant legal authority).

Although the Court is not in a position to assist Defendant, the undersigned remains hopeful that he will coordinate with his administrators to achieve a plan that serves his and his family’s needs, consistent with the BOP’s directives and missions.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

January 17, 2019

s/Cathy Bissoon
Cathy Bissoon
United States District Judge

cc (via First-Class U.S. Mail):

Gerald Tillman
30032-068
Housing Unit 5751
Federal Correctional Institution
P.O. Box 2000
Fort Dix, NJ 08640

cc (via ECF email notification):

All counsel of record